

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A transgenic, homozygous rat or mouse model having bone pathology comprising vulnerability of bone tissue, bone resorption or delay in bone growth, wherein the rat or mouse model is a rat or mouse that overexpresses regucalcin and shows said bone pathology.

26. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, homozygous rat or mouse model having bone pathology according to claim 25, wherein the rat or mouse expresses one or more increases in said bone pathology ~~comprising vulnerability of bone tissue, bone resorption or delay in bone growth~~.

27. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, homozygous rat or mouse model having bone pathology according to claim 25, wherein the rat or mouse is selected and determined among rats or mice that overexpress regucalcin by a morphological measurement of bone and/or a biochemical measurement of bone component.

28. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, homozygous rat or mouse model having bone pathology according to claim 27, wherein the morphological measurement of bone is one or more measurements of any of bone density, bone strength, bone thickness of diaphyseal cortex or length of surrounding of cortex.

29. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, homozygous rat or mouse model having bone pathology according to claim 27, wherein the biochemical measurement of bone component is one or more measurements of any of amount of calcium, alkaline phosphatase activity or amount of DNA in bone tissues.

30. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, homozygous rat or mouse model having bone pathology according to claim 25, wherein the characteristic of bone pathology is stable through many generations.

31-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, homozygous rat or mouse model having bone pathology according to claim 25, wherein the rat or mouse that overexpresses regucalcin is a female rat or mouse.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, homozygous rat or mouse model having bone pathology according to claim 25, wherein the rat or mouse that overexpresses regucalcin is a rat.

36. (Currently Amended) A screening method of preventive and therapeutic agents for bone diseases associated with vulnerability of bone tissue, bone resorption or delay in bone growth, wherein comprising administering a test substance is ~~administered~~ to a transgenic, homozygous rat or mouse model having bone pathology according to claim 25, and performing a morphological measurement of bone and/or a biochemical measurement of bone component of said transgenic rat or mouse model having bone pathology ~~are performed~~.

37. (Previously Presented) The screening method of preventive and therapeutic agents for bone disease according to claim 36, wherein the morphological measurement of bone is one or more measurements of any of bone density, bone strength, bone thickness of diaphyseal cortex or length of surrounding of cortex.

38. (Previously Presented) The screening method of preventive and therapeutic agents for bone disease according to claim 36, wherein the biochemical measurement of bone component is one or more measurements of any of amount of calcium, alkaline phosphatase activity or amount of DNA in bone tissues.

39. (Previously Presented) The screening method of preventive and therapeutic agents for bone disease according to claim 36, wherein the bone disease is osteoporosis.

40. (Cancelled)

Please add the following new claims:

41. (Currently Amended) A transgenic, homozygous rat model having bone pathology comprising vulnerability of bone tissue, bone resorption or delay in bone growth, wherein the rat model is a rat that overexpresses regucalcin and shows said bone pathology.

42. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, homozygous rat model having bone pathology according to claim 41, wherein the rat expresses one or more increases in said bone pathology-~~comprising vulnerability of bone tissue, bone resorption or delay in bone growth~~.

43. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, homozygous rat model having bone pathology according to claim 41, wherein the rat is selected and determined among rats that overexpress regucalcin by a morphological measurement of bone and/or a biochemical measurement of bone component.

44. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, homozygous rat model having bone pathology according to claim 43, wherein the morphological measurement of bone is one or more measurements of any of bone density, bone strength, bone thickness of diaphyseal cortex or length of surrounding of cortex.

45. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, homozygous rat model having bone pathology according to claim 43, wherein the biochemical measurement of bone component is one or more measurements of any of amount of calcium, alkaline phosphatase activity or amount of DNA in bone tissues.

46. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, homozygous rat model having bone pathology according to claim 41, wherein the characteristic of bone pathology is stable through many generations.

47. (Cancelled)

48. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, homozygous rat model having bone pathology according to claim 41, wherein the rat that overexpresses regucalcin is a female rat.

49. (Cancelled)

50. (Currently Amended) A screening method of preventive and therapeutic agents for bone diseases associated with vulnerability of bone tissue, bone resorption or delay in bone growth, wherein comprising administering a test substance ~~is administered~~ to a transgenic, homozygous rat model having bone pathology according to claim 41, and performing a morphological measurement of bone and/or a biochemical measurement of bone component of said transgenic rat model having bone pathology ~~are performed~~.

51. (Previously Presented) The screening method of preventive and therapeutic agents for bone disease according to claim 50, wherein the morphological measurement of bone is one or more measurements of any of bone density, bone strength, bone thickness of diaphyseal cortex or length of surrounding of cortex.

52. (Previously Presented) The screening method of preventive and therapeutic agents for bone disease according to claim 50, wherein the biochemical measurement of bone component is

one or more measurements of any of amount of calcium, alkaline phosphatase activity or amount of DNA in bone tissues.

53. (Previously Presented) The screening method of preventive and therapeutic agents for bone disease according to claim 50, wherein the bone disease is osteoporosis.